

## § 251.13

## 30 CFR Ch. II (7–1–07 Edition)

the recipient of the data and information.

### § 251.13 Reimbursement for the costs of reproducing data and information and certain processing costs.

(a) MMS will reimburse you or a third party for reasonable costs of reproducing data and information that the Regional Director requests if:

(1) You deliver G&G data and information to MMS for the Regional Director to inspect or select and retain (according to §§ 251.11 or 251.12 );

(2) MMS receives your request for reimbursement and the Regional Director determines that the requested reimbursement is proper; and

(3) The cost is at your lowest rate (or a third party's) or at the lowest commercial rate established in the area, whichever is less.

(b) MMS will reimburse you or the third party for the reasonable costs of processing geophysical information (which does not include cost of data acquisition):

(1) If, at the request of the Regional Director, you processed the geophysical data or information in a form or manner other than that used in the normal conduct of business; or

(2) If you collected the information under a permit that MMS issued to you before October 1, 1985, and the Regional Director requests and retains the information.

(c) When you request reimbursement, you must identify reproduction and processing costs separately from acquisition costs.

(d) MMS will not reimburse you or a third party for data acquisition costs or for the costs of analyzing or processing geological information or interpreting geological or geophysical information.

### § 251.14 Protecting and disclosing data and information submitted to MMS under a permit.

(a) *Disclosure of data and information to the public by MMS.* (1) In making data and information available to the public, the Regional Director will follow the applicable requirements of:

(i) The Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552);

(ii) The implementing regulations at 43 CFR part 2;

(iii) The Act; and

(iv) The regulations at 30 CFR parts 250 and 252.

(2) Except as specified in this section or in 30 CFR parts 250 and 252, if the Regional Director determines any data or information is exempt from public disclosure under paragraph (a) of this section, MMS will not provide the data and information to any State or to the executive of any local government or to the public, unless you and all third parties agree to the disclosure.

(3) MMS will keep confidential the identity of third party recipients of data and information collected under a permit. MMS will not release the identity unless you and the third parties agree to the disclosure.

(4) When you detect any significant hydrocarbon occurrences or environmental hazards on unleased lands during drilling operations, the Regional Director will immediately issue a public announcement. The announcement must further the national interest, but without unduly damaging your competitive position.

(b) *Timetable for release of G&G data and information that MMS acquires.* Except for high-resolution data and information released under 30 CFR 250.197(b)(2), MMS will release or disclose data and information that you or a third party submit and MMS retains in accordance with paragraphs (b)(1), (b)(2), and (b)(3) of this section.

(1) If the data and information are not related to a deep stratigraphic test, MMS will release them to the public in accordance with the following table:

If you or a third party submit and MMS retains * * *	The Regional Director will release them to the public * * *
(i) Geological data and information.	10 years after MMS issues the permit.
(ii) Geophysical data .....	50 years after MMS issues the permit.
(iii) Geophysical information ..	25 years after MMS issues the permit.

(2) If the data and information are related to a deep stratigraphic test, MMS will release them to the public at the earlier of the following times:

(i) Twenty-five years after you complete the test; or

(ii) If a lease sale is held after you complete a test well, 60 calendar days after MMS issues the first lease, any portion of which is located within 50